

Plate 46.—Two habitats are shown here. Classification of exposed areas: SYSTEM Lacustrine, SUBSYSTEM Littoral, CLASS Unconsolidated Shore, SUBCLASS Mud, WATER REGIMES Intermittently Flooded (light-colored soil) and Seasonally Flooded (darker soil along water's edge), WATER CHEMISTRY Mixosaline, SOIL Mineral. Classification of inundated areas: SYSTEM Lacustrine, SUBSYSTEM Littoral, CLASS Unconsolidated Bottom, SUBCLASS Mud, WATER REGIME Semipermanently Flooded, WATER CHEMISTRY Mixosaline, SOIL Mineral. Greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus), salt grass (Distichtis spicata), and rushes (Juncus spp.) are scattered across the flats. Because annual precipitation averages only about 18 cm (7 in) here, these wetlands are heavily dependent upon snowpack in the surrounding mountains as a source of water. (Saguache County, Colorado; Photo by R. M. Hopper)